

Mercury TMDL Implementation Plan

Rebecca Walter, MPCA

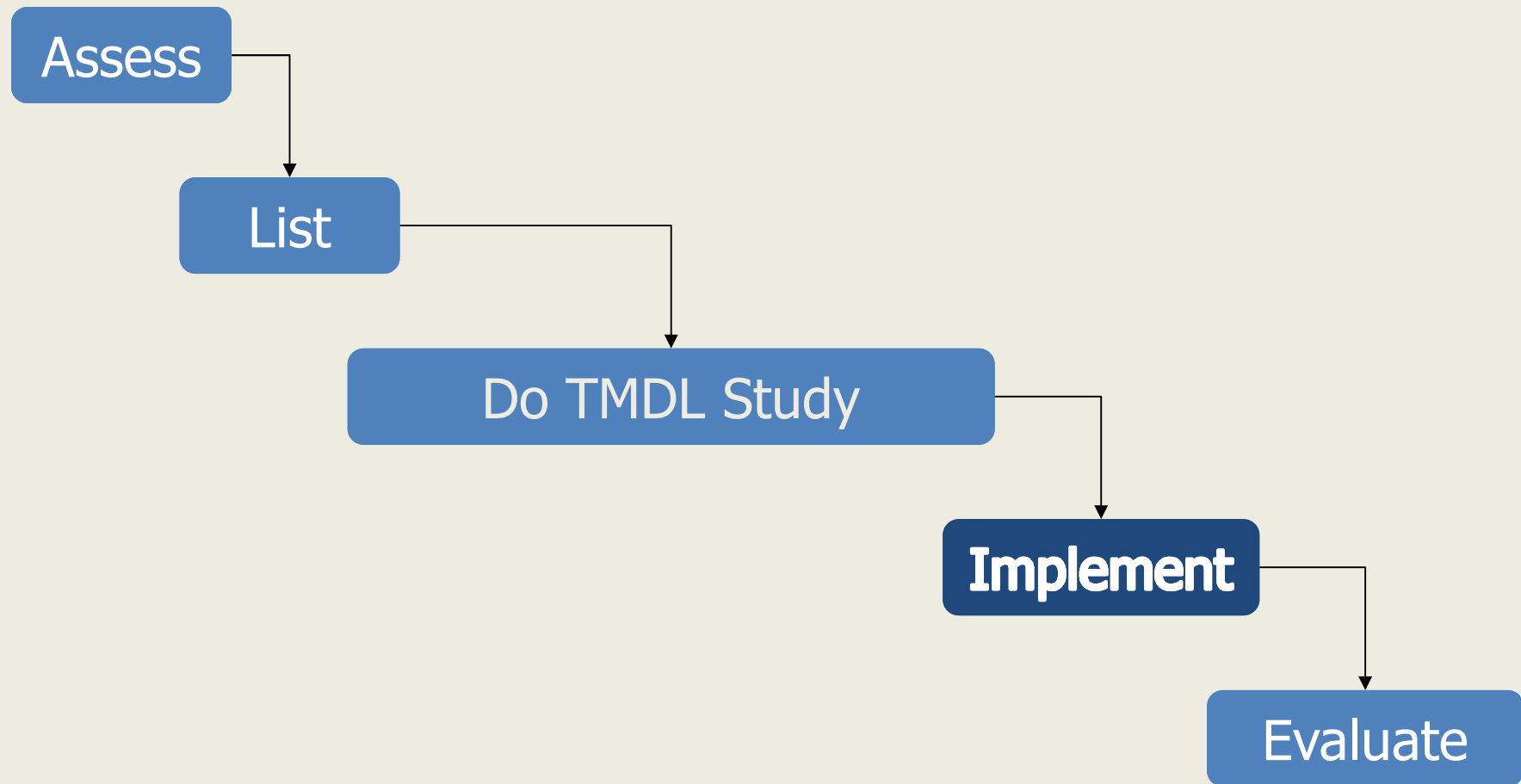
Rebecca.walter@state.mn.us

(651) 757-2807



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

The Impaired Waters Process



Hg TMDL

- Creates No New Regulatory Authority
- Water Point Sources addressed in Water Quality Permits
- Air Emission Sources as Non-Point Sources agree to meet commitments, without new permit authority
- Stakeholder Group



Implementation Planning Process

- June 2007 – May 2008
- MEI convened and facilitated stakeholder-recommended strategies to meet TMDL goals
- Two-tiered stakeholder engagement
 - group of 17 met 16 times during year
 - all known stakeholders invited to attend two input sessions and comment on drafts.



Objectives of Stakeholder Planning Phase

- Water - Ensure that total statewide mercury discharges remain below 24 lb/yr
- Air - Strategies for meeting MN share of air emission goal (789 lb/yr)
- 70-90% reductions from nearly all source categories
 - How to address new air sources
 - Acknowledgement that Hg emissions would fluctuate through 2025



Water Strategy Highlights

Strategy to keep point-source discharges below 24 lb/yr

- Current discharges 15 lb, allowing 9 lb for growth
- Specifies process for distributing “unallocated load”

Watershed management

- More analysis/research to determine effects of water level fluctuations



Reductions from Existing Air Sources

- Sources with MPCA Permit
 - require reduction plan
 - incorporate into permit or enforceable agreement
 - proposed mercury rule
- “Point” Sources without MPCA Permit
 - improve emission estimate
 - voluntary reduction first, more later if needed
- Product-related Sources
 - Pollution prevention
 - Improved management
 - Education and outreach



MN mercury from sectors



National Anthropogenic Mercury Emissions and Projections

	2005 Hg (tons)	2016 Base Hg(tons)
• Electric Generating Units	53	27
• Portland Cement Manufacturing	7.5	1.1
• Steel Manufacturing: Electric Arc Furnaces	7.0	4.6
• Industrial, Commercial, Institutional Boilers,	6.4	4.6
• Chemical Manufacturing	3.3	3.3
• Hazardous Waste Incineration	3.2	2.1
• Mercury Cell Chlor-Alkali Plants	3.1	0.3
• Gold Mining	2.5	0.7
• Municipal Waste Combustors	2.3	2.3
• Sum of other source categories (each of which emits less than 2 tons)	17	16
• Total	105	62

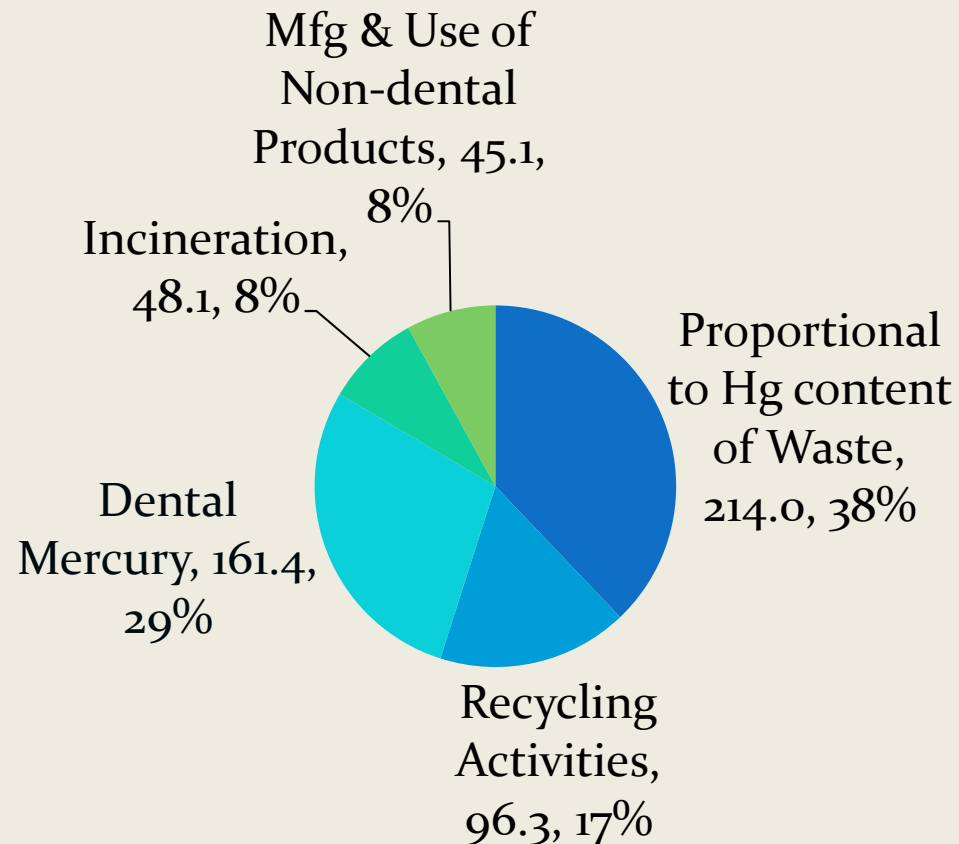


Mining Sector Commitments

- Complete medium and longer term testing of identified mercury-reduction technologies (2013)
- Begin the first full-scale installation of mercury emission control equipment (2014)
- Provide schedule for implementation at all other existing furnaces by 2016.



Product Use and Disposal



New and Modified Sources

- Employ best control available
- Complete environmental review
- Assess potential impact on sector goal
- For facilities with > 3 lb (after controls):
 - arrange for “equivalent reduction” in state
 - Propose “alternative mitigation strategy”



Mercury Rule Making

Mercury Inventory and Reduction Plans

- Scope: Annual inventory, periodic monitoring, reduction plans for existing sources w/o control requirements
- Schedule:
 - Draft Rule Summer 2012
 - Publish for Public Comment – December 2012



More Information

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency web site:
 - Implementation Plan: www.pca.state.mn.us/air/mercury-reductionplan.html
 - TMDL: www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-mercuryplan.html

